

1. SALINITY – The saltiness of water
2. WATER PRESSURE – the downward push of water on what it surrounds
3. CONTINENTAL SHELF – the underwater border of each continent
4. CONTINENTAL SLOPE – the steep area where an ocean rapidly gets deeper
5. OCEANIC TRENCH – a deep valley in an ocean floor
6. OCEANIC RIDGE – a system of underwater mountains and valleys, usually parallel to a trench
7. ABYSSAL PLAIN – a vast, flat area on the floor of an ocean
8. ATOLL – a ring of coral left when a volcanic island sinks far enough to disappear
9. CURRENT – a steady flow of water in a regular pattern
10. TIDE – the rise and fall of the water level in an ocean
11. JETTY – a structure that a current cannot move
12. INTERTIDAL ZONE – the area between the high – tide and low – tide lines
13. CORAL REEFS – branch – like structures built by colonies of coral polyps
14. PLANKTON – drifting organisms that live in the open ocean